Vacancies in ICDS

4666. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 10 per cent vacancies existed as on 31st December, 2000 in 4384 Integrated Child Development Schemes/Projects run by State Governments/UT Administrations;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the working of ICDS projects was badly affected because of heavy backlog; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by the Central Government to pursue the State Governments to fill up the sanctioned strength?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It was affected to a limited extent.

(c) The vacancy position is regularly monitored and the State Governments have been requested to fill up the vacancies.

Appointment of consultants by NCERT

4667. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has appointed several consultants during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details of these appointments *viz.* names of persons so appointed, alongwith their age, qualifications, emoluments paid or being paid and the specific projects for which they were appointed; and

(c) under which rules of Government of India or of the NCERT have these appointments been made?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.